UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/158
S/1996/409
7 June 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Items 33, 53 and 56
of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION OF
AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 4 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its fifty-ninth session, held at Riyadh on 1 and 2 June 1996 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 33, 53 and 56 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Salim Bin Mohammed AL-KHUSSAIBY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

[Original: Arabic]

Press communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its fifty-ninth session, held at Riyadh on 1 and 2 June 1996

The Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) held its fifty-ninth regular session at the seat of its secretariat in Riyadh on 1 and 2 June 1996 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Oman. The meeting was attended by:

His Excellency Mr. Rashid Bin Abdullah al-Nuaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates;

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar; and

His Excellency Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait.

The Ministerial Council welcomed His Excellency Sheikh Jamil Ibrahim al-Hegelan in his capacity as GCC Secretary-General and wished him success in the formidable tasks entrusted to him in promoting the realization of the hopes and aspirations of the leaders and peoples of the GCC countries.

The Council also welcomed Mr. Abdullah Bin Salih Bin Mubarak, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Affairs, and wished him continued success.

Progress made in cooperation

The Council expressed its profound satisfaction at the statement issued by Saudi Arabia and Qatar on their agreement to complete the demarcation of boundaries, to resume work in the joint technical committee with a view to selecting an international survey company and to elaborate the technical specifications for the conduct of a survey and the establishment of points marking the boundary between the two countries on the ground.

The Council welcomed the bilateral agreements concluded by some member States on the movement of nationals between them and on personal identification documents. It looks forward to all GCC member States emulating those that have taken practical measures in this regard, and it stresses the importance of such measures and their impact on strengthening the various fields of joint action

that embody the policies and aspirations of the leaders of the GCC countries and the expectations of their peoples.

Iraq's compliance with the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait

The Council expressed its satisfaction at the signing of the memorandum of understanding between Iraq and the United Nations on the implementation of Security Council resolution 986 (1995). That resolution addresses the matter of making provision for the humanitarian and medical needs to the Iraqi people and putting an end to the suffering for which the Iraqi Government alone bears responsibility, given that it has been refusing to accept the implementation of the resolution since its adoption two years ago and has thus been depriving the Iraqi people of essentials for no reason. Expressing its high appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, of the United Nations negotiating team and of the impetus given to the success of the negotiations by the members of the Security Council, the Ministerial Council hopes that this development will open the way for Iraq to implement all the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly those relating to the release of Kuwaiti and third-country prisoners and detainees, compliance with the compensation mechanism, the return of all property to Kuwait and the requirement to refrain from all acts of aggression or provocation in compliance with resolution 949 (1994). The Council further urges Iraq fully to discharge its other international obligations under the Security Council resolutions relating to the elimination of its weapons of mass destruction and to do so by permitting the international inspection teams to carry out their assigned tasks. In this connection, the Council pledges its continued political and material support for the efforts of the United Nations Special Commission entrusted with the elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and invites the international community to participate actively in supporting the Commission's efforts in every way possible in order to enable it to achieve its objective of placing the security and stability of the region on a firm foundation.

The Council reaffirms its total rejection of any policies aimed at prejudicing the territorial integrity of Iraq and expresses its wholehearted desire for the preservation of the country's sovereignty and territorial unity.

The Council expressed its distaste for and condemnation of the irresponsible statements made recently in Cairo by President Qaddafi, which represent an encroachment on the independence and sovereignty of Kuwait and a breach of the established customs and principles governing relations between States.

Relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Council reviewed recent developments in relations between the GCC States and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the question of the occupation of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates. It noted that the Iranian Government was continuing to take measures aimed at perpetuating its occupation of the islands by pursuing a policy of imposing facts by force. Having built an airstrip on Abu Musa on

10 March 1996, it had established an electricity station on the Greater Tunb on 14 April 1996 and had announced on 19 May 1996 the construction of a new seaport on Abu Musa to be completed this year, thus insisting on the further pursuit of its unwarranted and provocative measures. Having taken note of the letters from the Government of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Iranian Government protesting against these measures, the Council reiterated its profound regret that the Islamic Republic of Iran was maintaining its refusal to respond positively to repeated, earnest and sincere calls from the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute. The Council expressed its condemnation of successive Iranian measures on islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and its continued concern at the consequences of the Iranian Government's insistence on pursuing a policy of imposing facts by force. Such measures represent a violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates and an infringement of its rights with respect to the islands, they jeopardize security and stability in the region and they are incompatible with the principles and norms of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the principles of good-neighbourliness and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States of the region.

The Council reaffirms its resolute position in support of the United Arab Emirates and renews its unconditional endorsement of all the peaceful measures it has taken with a view to restoring its sovereignty over the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa. It renews its call to Iran to agree to the referral of the dispute to the International Court of Justice.

Affirming that the security of the GCC States is an integral whole, the Council urges Iran to refrain from interference in the internal affairs of Bahrain and other member States, to avoid any resort to or encouragement of acts of sabotage and to respect the sovereignty and independence of the GCC States. At the same time, it expresses its concern at the continuing efforts and sustained endeavour of the Islamic Republic of Iran to acquire and build a weapons capability that surpasses internationally recognized and legitimate conventional defensive needs, thereby posing a grave threat to security and stability in the region. In this connection, the Council calls on the international community and the international organizations concerned to endeavour to transform the Gulf region into a zone free of weapons of mass destruction.

The peace process in the Middle East

The Council discussed recent developments in the peace process in the Middle East in light of the fixed principles embodied in the positions it has adopted in support of the achievement of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace based on the terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference, particularly Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the principle of land for peace, a peace that will ensure an end to Israeli occupation of all Arab territory and enable the Palestinian people to assert its legitimate rights, including the right to exercise self-determination and establish an independent State on its native soil.

The Council reiterated its firm stand in support of the Syrian position calling for full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan to the 4 June 1967 boundary line.

Reiterating its strong condemnation of Israeli aggression against Lebanon and reaffirming its full support for and solidarity with the Lebanese people, the Council also affirms the need for adherence to the understanding reached on 27 April 1996 as a preliminary step towards the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978). It urges the Security Council to compel Israel to pay the compensation required for the repair of facilities and infrastructure destroyed by Israeli attacks and for the human casualties incurred.

In the light of the outcome of the Israeli elections, the Council stressed the need to require the incoming Israeli Government to remain fully and meticulously committed to the implementation of all the agreements reached as part of the peace process in the Middle East, as a strategic option from which there can be no retreat.

In this context, the Council urges the co-sponsors of the Madrid Peace Conference, and particularly the United States of America, to make the greatest efforts to ensure that the peace process continues, that the Palestinian-Israeli agreements are implemented fully and speedily and that serious progress is made towards bringing the final-phase negotiations on such important and basic issues as Jerusalem, the settlements, the refugees and the final status of the occupied Palestinian territories to a positive outcome. There must also be a speedy resumption of the bilateral negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks so as to ensure the achievement of tangible progress that will promote the establishment of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Extremism, violence and terrorism

Affirming that extremism, violence and terrorism are global phenomena that are not restricted to any particular people or region, the Council renews its condemnation of such phenomena and its categorical rejection of all forms of violence and terrorism, particularly those that are detrimental to security and stability in the region. It calls upon the international community to coordinate its efforts to halt acts of violence and terrorism, ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, and prevent extremist and terrorist elements from using the territory of any State for purposes of obtaining funding or arms supplies and from availing themselves of the media to incite to acts of violence or terrorism.

The Council expresses its satisfaction that the security services in Saudi Arabia have been able to arrest the perpetrators of the bombing in the Ulaya neighbourhood and wishes the Government and people of Saudi Arabia continued security and stability under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

The Council renews its support for Bahrain and its full backing for the measures it is taking to strengthen its security and stability. It does so given the principle of the shared destiny of the GCC countries, the global

character of their security and the concern that their stability should not be weakened or undermined.

The Council recalled the decisions taken by the GCC Supreme Council at its sixteenth session, held in Muscat, which stressed the importance of cooperation among GCC States in countering biased media campaigns directed against any member State and the need for compliance with the foreign media controls and code of media integrity, which call for the adoption of a common position against newspapers and other media defaming the GCC countries.

Developments in the dispute between the Republic of Yemen and Eritrea concerning the Hanish islands

The Council reviewed developments in the dispute between the Republic of Yemen and Eritrea concerning the Hanish islands. It expressed satisfaction that on 21 May 1996 the two countries had signed a set of principles for an agreement on the peaceful resolution of the dispute concerning questions of territorial sovereignty and maritime boundaries between the two countries by means of international arbitration, and it appreciates the international mediation efforts made with a view to securing this agreement, particularly those of France.

Developments in the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Council reviewed developments affecting events in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and stressed the importance of the effective implementation of all the provisions of the Dayton agreement if security, stability and peace were to be achieved for all the parties to that agreement. It reaffirms the need for the international community to cooperate in bringing before the International Tribunal at The Hague all of those who have committed crimes against humanity, genocide or serious violations of international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia.

Economic matters

Pursuant to the decision of the GCC Supreme Council at its sixteenth session, held in Muscat from 4 to 6 December 1995, the ministers for foreign affairs and ministers of finance and economy of the GCC States held their seventh meeting at the seat of the GCC secretariat in Riyadh on 1 June 1996 to discuss a unified customs tariff for the GCC States vis-à-vis the rest of the world. After discussing the note by the secretariat on the subject, they decided to request the Secretary-General to hold consultations with member States so that they could discuss the best means of reaching agreement on the proposals contained in the note and submit their views to another joint meeting of the Ministerial Council and the Committee on Financial and Economic Cooperation to be held in September 1996.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/159
S/1996/417
10 June 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 71 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 10 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement made on 2 June 1996 by the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris N. Yeltsin, concerning the removal from Ukraine of the nuclear warheads situated in its territory since the breakup of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 71 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV

* A/51/50.

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Annex

Statement issued on 2 June 1996 by the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris N. Yeltsin, concerning the removal from Ukraine of the nuclear warheads situated in its territory since the break-up of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Today, 2 June 1996, marks the completion of the removal from Ukraine of the nuclear warheads situated in its territory since the breakup of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

This was made possible by close cooperation between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Although at times difficult political, economic and technical problems had to be solved, common sense and the two sides' commitment to their international obligations always won out. Thus, the relevant provisions of the Lisbon Protocol have been carried out, and Ukraine's decision to become a non-nuclear-weapon State has become a reality.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to the diplomats, Russian servicemen, and specialists and staff of the various ministries and departments who took part in this operation, the scale and complexity of which is without precedent. At all stages of the operation, the safe keeping and security of the nuclear warheads were guaranteed, beginning with their removal from the delivery vehicles, their transport and, finally, their dismantlement at enterprises of the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy.

A positive aspect of this operation was the cooperation with the United States of America under the Tripartite Agreements of 14 January 1994 between the Presidents of the Russian Federation, the United States of America and Ukraine.

The Russian Federation is prepared to continue to deepen its cooperation with Ukraine in matters of security with a view to strengthening peace for the benefit of the fraternal peoples of the two countries.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/160
S/1996/418
10 June 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 19 of the preliminary list*
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON
THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 7 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a copy of the official communiqué on Western Sahara issued by the Spanish Government on 3 June 1996. I should be grateful if you would have it distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 19 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Juan Antonio YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

Official communiqué on Western Sahara issued by the Spanish Government on 3 June 1996

The United Nations Security Council has approved resolution 1056 (1996) of 29 May 1996 on Western Sahara, in which, on the proposal of the Secretary-General, it decides to suspend the voter identification process for the referendum and significantly reduces the strength of the civilian component of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). Nevertheless, it maintains practically intact its military presence for monitoring the maintenance of the cease-fire.

The Security Council has not suspended the Settlement Plan, nor has it abandoned its commitment to secure a just and lasting solution to the question of Western Sahara through the holding of the referendum on self-determination in accordance with the Settlement Plan. Accordingly, in addition to maintaining its military presence, it has decided to maintain a political office in the zone and to request the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to break the impasse in the situation.

The Spanish Government reiterates its traditional position of principle to the effect that the problem of Western Sahara will be definitively resolved only through the self-determination of the Saharan people by means of a free referendum with international guarantees.

The Government expresses its concern at the suspension of the voter identification operation and the impasse in the settlement process, and underlines the importance of maintaining the climate of harmonious coexistence among the peoples of the Maghreb. In its contacts with the United Nations, the parties and interested countries, the Government will insist on the importance of the cease-fire that has been in force since 1991 and on the desirability of a prompt renewal of the voter identification process and the other aspects of the Settlement Plan, and will encourage them to work in a spirit of compromise for the solution of the present problems with a view to the future of the territory and to the peace and prosperity of the region.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/161
11 June 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Item 41 of the preliminary list*

SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

Letter dated 4 June 1996 from the Permanent Representatives of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of a joint communiqué and a joint declaration of the Baltic Presidents on partnership for integration, which were adopted by the Presidents of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania at a meeting held at Vilnius on 28 May 1996.

We should be grateful if you would have this communiqué and declaration circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 41 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Trivimi VELLISTE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Estonia to
the United Nations

(Signed) Alvars BAUMANIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Latvia to
the United Nations

(Signed) Oskaras JUSYS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Lithuania to
the United Nations

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX I

Joint Declaration of the Baltic Presidents on Partnership for Integration, issued at Vilnius on 28 May 1996

We, the Presidents of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, declare to the world continuing intentions to seek to reintegrate ourselves in all European institutions. We believe that our countries can and will make a joint contribution to the European Union and NATO. And we want to make these important steps not in competition with one another, but together, recognizing that Baltic security like European security is both multifaceted and indivisible.

We recognize that integration is a process that will take time and require much from us, but we are convinced of the following:

- First, both the European Union and NATO should start the accession process together with us and other Central European countries, even if actual membership will take some time. For all of us, the "who" of the question of enlargement of both institutions is considerably more important to our security and that of Europe as a whole than the "when".

- Second, we want to take these steps not out of fear of third countries because we believe that our place is in a united Europe.

- Third, our three nations are committed to making the sacrifices necessary to achieve these goals. Our economies are already being brought into line with European standards and our soldiers are already participating in the NATO-led peace implementation operations in the former Yugoslavia.

Because of our joint commitment to these goals, no one should try to play one of our countries off against another. As we were when we strove to recover our independence, so too now we are united and will remain so.

Algirdas Brazauskas
President
Republic of Lithuania

Lennart Meri
President
Republic of Estonia

Guntis Ulmanis
President
Republic of Latvia

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ANNEX II

Joint Communiqué of the meeting of the Presidents of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania held at Vilnius on 28 May 1996

The Presidents of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania met at Vilnius on 28 May 1996 and discussed a number of mutually important issues, paying special attention to trilateral cooperation among Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, processes of European integration and NATO enlargement. Significance was given also to the prospects for the deepening of Baltic Sea regional cooperation and to relations with neighbouring countries.

The Presidents noted an ever-increasing significance of trilateral Estonian-Latvian-Lithuanian political and economic relations.

The Presidents stressed that cooperation aiming at the creation of an integrated infrastructure in the Baltic region, attractive for facilitation of investments, would best serve the national interests of the individual countries. In this connection the Presidents welcomed the practical decisions reached by the Prime Ministers of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania at their meeting at Vilnius on 14 April 1996.

The Presidents underlined the significance of the "Via Baltica" project for the development of a European transportation infrastructure as well as creation of joint energy systems. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will continue to be actively involved in the implementation of these projects. In order to increase border permeability the appropriate authorities were instructed to speed up the establishment of joint border checkpoints and the creation of a common transit procedure. At the same time Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will harmonize and strengthen control of the external border. Interoperability of authorities responsible for preventing organized transboundary crime and illegal migration should be made more efficient.

The Presidents welcomed the conclusion of negotiations among Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on the Free Trade Agreement in agricultural products, which will create an important precondition to the integration of the Baltic States into the internal market of the European Union (EU).

The Presidents underlined the importance of the Baltic States' cooperation on the road to integration into the European and transatlantic structures. The Presidents agreed that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania would support each other in the process of integration into the European Union and would hold regular consultations on matters of common interest.

The Presidents were encouraged by the conclusions of the European Council meeting at Madrid, welcomed the beginning of the EU Intergovernmental Conference and underlined the working spirit expressed in the Turin European Council Presidency Conclusions. The Presidents were unanimous in opinion that the successful conclusion of the Intergovernmental Conference would be an important

factor for the enlargement of the European Union. The Presidents emphasized the importance of the simultaneous commencement of the accession negotiations with all applicant countries not later than six months after the conclusion of the Conference.

The Presidents looked forward to the forthcoming European Council meeting at Florence and expressed the hope that the meeting would prove concrete and constructive.

The Presidents welcomed the Presidency Declaration of the Baltic Sea States Summit, held at Visby on 3 and 4 May 1996, in which support for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in their preparation for membership of the European Union was underlined. They greeted the Baltic Sea Region Initiative presented by the President of the European Commission to the Visby Summit as an expression of enhanced European Union interest in the region.

The Presidents noted that the evolving European security architecture should be based upon the concept of indivisible security. Security, stability, democracy and well-being in Europe are ensured through European integration and transatlantic solidarity.

The Presidents confirmed their interest in pursuing bilateral dialogue with NATO on issues related to the enlargement of the alliance. The Presidents stressed that in order to secure stability and democracy in the whole of Europe, the accession process should start simultaneously with all countries that have the prospect of EU membership and have shown an interest in joining NATO.

The Presidents emphasized the significance of the involvement and contribution of the United States in the stability of Europe. The Presidents expressed their belief that the United States would continue to support Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on their way towards full integration into the transatlantic alliance, with the goal of promoting stability and security in the region.

The Presidents discussed the contributions of the Baltic States to the implementation of the Dayton peace agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, signed in December 1995 in Paris. The Presidents noted Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian participation in the forces of the Implementation Force (IFOR) and contributions to the organization of elections and the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a demonstration of readiness and capability to share responsibilities for peace and stability in Europe.

The Presidents once more stressed the importance of cooperation between the Baltic and Nordic States as part of the European integration process to promote stability, security, democracy and development in the region.

The Presidents recognized that ever-increasing cooperation with the other Central European countries positively contributes to political and economic developments on the way to the integration of Europe.

The Presidents exchanged opinions on the situation in the Russian Federation, with a view to the forthcoming presidential elections. The

Presidents expressed the hope that the process and outcome of the elections would allow the continuation of democratic reforms in the Russian Federation and would preserve its commitments to universally accepted principles and norms of international law.

The Presidents welcomed the development of democratic and economic reforms in Ukraine as an important factor for stability and security in Europe and expressed their support for the intensified relations between Ukraine and European as well as transatlantic organizations.

Algirdas Brazauskas
President
Republic of Lithuania

Lennart Meri
President
Republic of Estonia

Guntis Ulmanis
President
Republic of Latvia

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/162
S/1996/425
11 June 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 41 of the preliminary list*
SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 11 June 1996 from the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a declaration entitled "For Inter-ethnic Accord, Peace and Economic and Cultural Cooperation in the Caucasus", adopted at a meeting of the heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Azerbaijani Republic, Georgia and the Russian Federation, held in Kislovodsk on 3 June 1996 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 41 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. ARZOUMANIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Armenia
to the United Nations

(Signed) Ya. ALIYEV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Azerbaijani Republic
to the United Nations

(Signed) P. CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Georgia
to the United Nations

(Signed) S. LAVROV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

Declaration entitled "For Inter-ethnic Accord, Peace and Economic and Cultural Cooperation in the Caucasus", adopted at a meeting of the heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Azerbaijani Republic, Georgia and the Russian Federation, held in Kislovodsk on 3 June 1996

We, the heads of State of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation, meeting in Kislovodsk on 3 June 1996, together with the leaders of the republics, territories and regions of the Caucasus,

United by an awareness of our shared responsibility for the present and future of the Caucasus region, which is historically the cradle of peoples of diverse language groups, religions and national cultures, who represent a unique spectrum of human civilization,

Considering the Caucasus as a single integral area and a geopolitical reality,

Guided by the will of the peoples of the region to maintain and strengthen their relations of good-neighbourliness and mutual support,

Realizing the exceptional importance of ensuring inter-ethnic accord and promoting initiatives to ensure peace, security and stability in the Caucasus,

Expressing serious concern at the conflicts continuing in the region and the disruption of centuries-old political and economic ties and humanitarian contacts,

Firmly committed to the generally accepted norms of international law, the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic instruments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Declare our firm resolve to promote in every possible way lasting peace and stability in the Caucasus, and to broaden and strengthen the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation among our peoples.

The armed conflicts taking place in the region are destructive and inhumane. They hinder the political, economic and social development of our countries and their closer interaction, as well as the restoration of contacts between individuals.

We appeal to all interested parties to make every effort to reach a comprehensive settlement of the ongoing conflicts on the basis of the universally recognized principles and norms of international law. In this regard, we stress the importance of the peace-keeping role of the Russian Federation and international organizations.

The participants in the meeting welcome the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Chechnya and the efforts of the President of the Russian Federation to achieve a definitive settlement of this problem.

They also welcome the signing of the memorandum on measures to ensure security and strengthen mutual confidence between the parties to the Georgian-Ossetian conflict.

The participants in the meeting express their satisfaction that the cease-fire in the Nagorny Karabakh conflict has held for two years, and pledge to accelerate the negotiations process with a view to achieving a speedy and comprehensive peaceful settlement of the conflict.

We are painfully aware of the problem of refugees and displaced persons, whatever their nationality, and shall make every effort to create conditions for their speedy and voluntary return to their homes in safety.

We categorically reject aggressive separatism, manifestations of ethnic exclusiveness, interdenominational strife and religious extremism. We are firmly resolved to promote ethnic and religious tolerance and careful and respectful treatment of the region's cultural and linguistic diversity.

We condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and are resolved to make concerted efforts to eradicate it. It is imperative to put an end to arms and drug trafficking.

We express our intention jointly to preserve and increase all the positive things that traditionally link the peoples of the Caucasus and Russia. Mutual confidence and openness, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and non-interference in internal affairs, scrupulous compliance with all obligations, and mutually advantageous partnership must become the basis of our mutual relations.

We emphasize the importance of comprehensive partnership and interaction among our States and the encouragement of integration among them on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual advantage, and the need to carry out a balanced economic policy in the Caucasus region. The paramount task in the settlement of conflicts is the formation of a common economic area, the all-round development of trade and economic and scientific and technical cooperation, the implementation of joint projects in the field of telecommunications, construction, transport, fuel and energy and environmental protection, and the encouragement of investment and trade on the basis of the universally recognized principles of international law, bearing in mind cultural and historical ties.

Particular attention must be given to all-round cooperation in the protection of the unique natural environment of the Caucasus, the elimination of man-made damage and the results of natural disasters and armed conflicts, and the promotion of international tourism.

We declare that we shall support any steps undertaken by leaders at all levels, politicians, and representatives of parties, movements and diverse religious denominations with a view to strengthening international accord and

peace in the Caucasus by increasing cultural, scientific, humanitarian and other contacts and promoting the ideas of democracy and social progress.

The participants in the meeting are resolved to encourage, as far as possible, measures to achieve the goals set out in this Declaration, develop all-round cooperation between our States and their component parts in the fields of economy, culture and education and in the social sphere, and take effective measures to settle the conflicts in the Caucasus and eliminate their consequences.

We, the heads of State of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation, realizing our historical responsibility for the future of our peoples and expressing the will of millions of people, declare our readiness to do everything within our power to ensure inter-ethnic accord, peace and economic progress and to increase the cultural and historical heritage shared by the peoples of the Caucasus.

The Caucasus is our common home. It is our duty to make it a peaceful and prosperous region, in which people, proud of their history and confident in the future, can live.

For the Republic of Armenia:
Levon TER-PETROSSIAN

For the Azerbaijani Republic:
Heydar ALIYEV

For Georgia:
Eduard SHEVARDNADZE

For the Russian Federation:
Boris YELTSIN

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/163
12 June 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: CHINESE

Fifty-first session
Items 66, 69 and 71 of the
preliminary list*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

CONCLUSION OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 8 June 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the Chinese, Arabic, English, French and Russian texts of a statement released on 8 June 1996 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (see annexes).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 66, 69 and 71 of the preliminary list.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) WANG Xuexian
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

China conducted a nuclear test on 8 June 1996.

China stands for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, and is in favour of bringing about a comprehensive nuclear-test ban in the process of working towards that goal. As early as October of 1993, the Chinese Government publicly announced that China advocates the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty (CTBT) no later than 1996. Since then, the Chinese delegation has taken an active part in the CTBT negotiations in Geneva. China will continue to work with other countries for the conclusion, by the end of this year, of a fair, reasonable and verifiable treaty with universal adherence and unlimited duration.

The small quantity of nuclear weapons China possesses is solely for the purpose of self-defence, and does not constitute a threat to any country. China has unilaterally and solemnly renounced the first use of nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstances. It has also made a commitment not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones. At the same time, China strongly calls upon other nuclear-weapon States to respond positively to China's initiative by immediately concluding, through negotiations, a treaty on mutual non-first-use of nuclear weapons, and by reaching an unconditional agreement not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones.

In the world today, there still exist huge nuclear arsenals and the threat of a nuclear war caused by the first use of nuclear weapons. Under these conditions, in order to safeguard the highest interests of the State and the nation, China cannot but conduct a minimal number of necessary nuclear tests. We have always exercised utmost restraint in conducting nuclear tests, and the number of tests we have conducted has been extremely limited.

Together with the Governments and peoples of the world's other countries, the Chinese Government and people will work unremittingly and do their utmost to attain the lofty goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world at an early date, and to maintain lasting peace and universal security.

On the basis of the aforementioned position, the Chinese Government hereby announces that before September of this year, China will again conduct a nuclear test to ensure the safety of its nuclear weapons, and will observe a moratorium on nuclear testing thereafter.

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/164
S/1996/432
13 June 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 37 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION OF DEMOCRACY AND
HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 12 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for the current month, to transmit to you a photocopy of the document containing the resolution on the international presence in Haiti adopted at the seventh plenary session of the twenty-sixth regular session of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Panama City from 3 to 6 June 1996.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ricardo G. CASTANEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

Resolution of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States

INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN HAITI

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session, held on June 6, 1996)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in the exercise of the powers conferred on it by General Assembly resolution AG/RES.1080 (XXI-O/91), the Permanent Council convened an ad hoc Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on September 30, 1991, the very day on which the coup d'etat had taken place in Haiti, to assess the seriousness of the events that had occurred and had caused the sudden and violent interruption of the democratic process in that country;

Bearing in mind resolutions MRE/RES.1/91, MRE/RES.2/91, MRE/RES.3/92 Corr.1, MRE/RES.4/92, MRE/RES.5/93 Corr.1, MRE/RES.6/94, and MRE/RES.7/95, adopted by the ministers of foreign affairs of the member States with respect to the restoration of democracy in Haiti; resolutions CP/RES.567 (870/91), CP/RES.575 (885/92), CP/RES.594 (923/92), CP/RES.610 (968/93), CP/RES.630 (987/94), and CP/RES.633 (995/94), as well as declarations CP/DEC.2 (896/92), CP/DEC.8 (927/93), CP/DEC.9 (931/93), CP/DEC.10 (934/94), CP/DEC.14 (960/93), CP/DEC.15 (967/93), CP/DEC.18 (986/94), and CP/DEC.21 (1006/94), adopted by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States;

Taking note of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, in particular Security Council resolutions 841 (1993), 861 (1993), 862 (1993), 867 (1993), 873 (1993), 875 (1993), 905 (1994), 917 (1994), 933 (1994), 940 (1994), 944 (1994), 948 (1994), 964 (1994), 975 (1995), 1007 (1995), and 1048 (1996) and General Assembly resolutions 46/7 (1991), 46/138 (1991), 47/20 A (1992), 47/20 B (1993), 48/27 A (1993), 48/27 B (1994), 49/27 (1994), and 49/201 (1994), concerning the crisis in Haiti;

Reaffirming that one of the essential purposes of the Organization of American States is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of non-intervention;

Considering:

That the international community, particularly through the Organization of American States and the United Nations, responded to the appeal of the Haitian Government by taking the necessary steps to reinstate the constitutional government of the people of Haiti, in accordance with their sovereign will, as expressed overwhelmingly in the December 16, 1990, elections; and

That the rule of law was restored in that country with the return to constitutional order on October 15, 1994, the reinstatement of the officials legitimately elected by the Haitian people in December 1990, and the successful holding of free and democratic local, parliamentary, and presidential elections in 1995, leading to a peaceful and democratic transfer of power;

Taking into account that the efforts of President René Préval and the Government and people of Haiti to consolidate democracy and ensure strict observance of human rights and the socio-economic development of Haiti should be firmly supported by the international community and, in particular, by the member States of the Organization of American States; and

Observing that the Government of Haiti, with the support of the Organization of American States and the United Nations, has launched programmes aimed at consolidating democratic institutions in Haiti;

Resolves:

1. To express its deepest satisfaction at the consolidation of the rule of law in Haiti, thanks to the establishment of a stable government that respects democratic principles.

2. To congratulate the people and Government of Haiti on their efforts to bring about national reconciliation and embark on a process of strict observance of human rights.

3. To reaffirm the member States' staunch resolve to continue their active cooperation in strengthening the rule of law and the democratic system in Haiti, promoting sustained economic development and strict observance of human rights in that country.

4. To recommend that the OAS/United Nations International Civilian Mission continue its activities in Haiti.

5. To congratulate the heads of State and Government of the OAS member and permanent observer States, the ad hoc Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on Haiti, the secretaries general of the OAS and the United Nations, their special envoys, the OAS/United Nations International Civilian Mission, the countries comprising the Group of Friends of the United Nations Secretary-General, the Caribbean Community, and various prominent members of the international community for their political and material contributions to the restoration of security, stability, peace, and the rule of law in Haiti.

6. To encourage the international community to sustain, during this period of transition, the same level of commitment it demonstrated during the years of crisis, and to recommend that, at the request of the Haitian Government, the community maintain a strong presence in Haiti and extend, also at the Government's request, its full support for strengthening the National Police Force and consolidating the stable and democratic environment necessary for economic growth and development.

7. To support the initiatives of the member States and permanent observers at the Organization of American States to strengthen their partnership with the Government and people of Haiti within the framework of efforts to advance sustainable development.

8. To urge international financial institutions to enhance their support to Haiti so that its Government may meet the many pressing socio-economic needs of the population that could threaten the stability of the rule of law and the policy of national reconciliation launched with the return to constitutional order.

9. To request that the OAS Secretary General present a quarterly written report on the execution of this resolution to the Permanent Council and transmit it also to the United Nations Secretary-General, the international financial institutions, and the Governments of the member and permanent observer States.